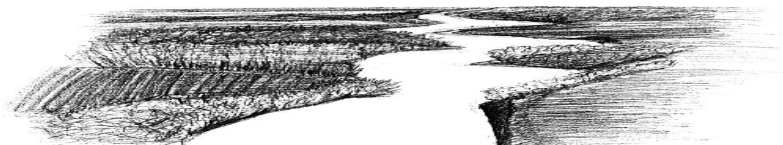


SACRAMENTO RIVER CONSERVATION AREA

2440 Main Street
Red Bluff, Ca. 96080



Web-Page www.sacramentoriver.ca.gov.

SRCA NOTES

OCTOBER, 2001

❖ Project Activities and Updates

Sacramento River Partners has entered the fall season with numerous projects and activities in process. SRP addressed the State Reclamation Board in Sacramento at their board meeting September 12, 2001 and urged review of the regulations and process for issuing encroachment permits for restoration projects. The Reclamation Board directed staff to review the permitting process and cumulative effects issues; this will be an agenda item for their December meeting. SRP is contracting with a local farmer under a Bureau of Reclamation grant to plant a 132-acre waterfowl winter wheat food plot at Drum Heller Slough, opposite the Princeton Ferry. Preparation has begun to plant over 250 acres of native grasses on State and Federal properties.

M&T/Llano Seco Pumps –Les Heringer, Manager, reported they are working through the permitting process for the short-term “fix”, dredging the bar back to its 1995 line. The comment period is open on the 1603 permit and will end October 18th. They hope to begin work late October/early November. They will be submitting a proposal to CALFED for funding for both the dredging and the development of a long-term solution.

Hamilton City will host the Levee Festival on October 14th at the Hamilton City Park. An MOU regarding the Feasibility Study Cost Share agreement will be signed by Glenn County and HCCSD at the festival.

The State of the Sacramento River Conference, November 17-18, 2001, Red Bluff Community Center, Red Bluff
2001 Fall Speaker Series – successive Saturdays starting Oct 6, 9:00 am, Bidwell Park, Chico.

September 19 TAC Meeting – Discussion Items:

Mike Reeves, Trust for Public Lands, discussed the Fenwood Ranch conservation easement partnered with the Shasta Land Trust on 2200 acres located on the Sacramento River east of Anderson. The property will remain in agricultural use while being protected from urban development.

Scott Clemons, WCB, apprised the group of a recommendation they have received from DF&G to consider a grant to SRP for acquisition of a 250-acre parcel located at RM 172. A decision will be made by October 1st whether to include on the WCB agenda.

Project review process was discussed and many on the Committee felt that additional technical information is needed on individual projects and a clearer definition of what the expectations are of the Committee and Board regarding project review. The chairman advised the group he would bring to the SRCA Board for discussion and clarification.

Annalena Bronson, DWR-Comprehensive Study, discussed the Comprehensive Study/Starter Plan, the first in a process working towards the development of the preferred alternatives for the Master Plan. The draft Starting Point Plan will be provide for public review and comment beginning in October.

CALFED Proposals – Greg Golet from The Nature Conservancy informed the group that one of the proposals they presented at the last TAC, the acquisition proposal in Tehama County is no longer being considered. Joe Silveira, F&WS, discussed two proposals being prepared by Sacramento River Partners (1) A feasibility study for restoration on 450 acres, it will also look at needs of the PGCID pumping station and (2) a 135-acre restoration on the “Stone Unit” across from the old Princeton Ferry.

Burt Bundy updated the Committee on **Hamilton City**; there seems to be support and funding for the dual role process of a section 205 feasibility study and a Comp. Study Initial Project. Supporters for **Woodson Bridge/Kopta Slough** have requested funding for a Section 1135 project through the Crops of Engineers. The work being done by DWR to remove the build-up of silt in the **Sutter By-pass** to improve the refuge capacity is almost completed.

The Advisory Council meeting was held on September 17th in Sacramento where the Annual Report was presented and discussion held on the proposed Handbook amendments. There were no suggested changes to those amendments. Representatives from DF&G also updated the group on the current status of recommended solutions on many of the action items in the Fisheries Management Plan. Stacy Cepello, DWR, discussed the GIS, and progress on establishing ownership of properties.

September 27th SRCA Board Meeting – Discussion Items:

Denny Bungarz gave an overview of the September 17th Advisory Council Meeting.

Adoption of Handbook Amendments – The six Handbook amendments were adopted by unanimous vote.

Board Committee Reports:

Executive Committee – discussed bids being requested by the SRCA staff for an outreach proposal, the Outreach Committee will present proposal to the Board; the Committee will recommend to the Board that they pursue the issue of legal counsel for the SRCA, not to retain, but to establish a relationship; the Chairman discussed the idea of a Board sub-committee to define the project review process. At the Board meeting Diana Jacobs, Denny Bungarz, Jane Dolan, and Dan Keppen offered to serve on the sub-committee. **TAC Report** – Dan Keppen, TAC Chair, reported that the main topic of discussion at the last TAC meeting was the project review process and the need to define the role of the TAC and the Board. It was suggested that the issue of conversion of ag land to habitat be on the agenda for future TAC or Board meetings, or both because of concerns raised about cumulative impacts.

Landowner Assurances – There was no meeting in September, the Chairman will try to have a rough draft of a “good neighbor policy” statement available at the next meeting on October 11th.

PILT/Econ Committee – the meeting in September was cancelled in part to the tragic events of September 11; a tentative date was set for October 18th at the Board conference room in Willows at 1:30. **Outreach Committee**- Laura Allen reported that the Committee is looking at several possibilities for an outreach proposal, including an expanded brochure, a separate website with links to public use/recreation, and development of a logo.

Manager’s Report – Burt Bundy discussed the status on Hamilton City and Woodson Bridge. The SRCA will be involved in the management plan on the conservation easement at the Fenwood Ranch. Burt updated the group on the work being done to clear an area in the Sutter by-pass refuge, work will be done before flood season.

Agency Reports – Rebecca Fris, CALFED, discussed the status of the PSP process, the due date was extended to Oct. 5 but does not change the end date, public comment will be in January. Dan Castleberry, F&WS, discussed the CVPIA’s coordination with the CALFED process. Scott Clemons, Wildlife Conservation Board, discussed a request for a grant from Sacramento River Partners to purchase a 259-acre parcel, the Pamma property, RM 172, south of Llano Seco. Information on this was also presented at the last TAC meeting. Discussion followed on the proposed acquisition and questions on the environmental review process.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q Since the construction of Shasta Dam, is there more sediment and debris in the River, or less?

A Shasta dam has had a major effect on streamflow, sediment, and debris in the Sacramento River. This effect is the most extreme directly below Shasta and Keswick dams, then gradually decreases downstream as more tributaries enter the river. In general, most of the sediment and debris from the upper 6,500 square mile drainage area is trapped by the reservoir. Water released from the dam is nearly sediment –free. Whiskeytown dam on Clear Creek and Black Butte dam on Stony Creek also trap most of the sediment and debris from those two creeks. Tributaries providing large amounts of sediment and debris to the river, from north to south, include Cottonwood, Red Bank, Thomes, Elder, Mill, and Deer creeks. The operation of Shasta dam is such that the following generally occurs:

- Storms in the early fall and winter generally carry large amounts of debris and sediment. This is because the reservoirs are filling and not releasing, with the tributaries rich in sediment providing most of the flow.
 - Later in the winter when the reservoirs are full, flood releases dilute the sediment from the tributaries.
- by Koll Buer, Department of Water Resources, Geologic Investigations Unit

The Sacramento River
Conservation Area Board
Members:

Chair, Ben Carter, Colusa County

Don Anderson, Glenn County, Sec/Treas.

Jane Dolan, Butte County, Vice Chairman

➤ Meeting Dates – Comprehensive Study

Chico Area Recreation Dist., 545 Vallombrosa Ave., Chico, **October 4**, 6-9 pm

US COE, 1325 J St, Ste 814, Sacramento, **October 26**, 1-4 pm

Red Bluff Library, 645 Madison St, Red Bluff, **November 1**, 1-4 pm

Chico Area Recreation Dist.545 Vallombrosa Ave. Chico, **November 8**, 6-9 pm

Atwood Hall. Colusa Fairgrounds. Hwy 20. Colusa. **November 14**. 6-9 pm

Bill Borrer, Tehama County

Denny Bungarz, Glenn County

Mel Dodgin, The Resources Agency

Marc Faye, Yolo County

Brendon Flynn, Tehama County

Dan Gover, Shasta County

Glenn Hawes, Shasta County

Shirley Lewis, Butte County

Lynnel Pollock, Yolo County

Dan Silva, Sutter County

Doug White, Colusa County

Russell Young, Sutter County

Ex-Officio Members:

Laura Allen, Bureau of Reclamation

Dan Castleberry, US F&WS

Mark Charlton, Corps of Engineers

Diana Jacobs, Department of Fish & Game

Pete Rabbon, The Reclamation Board

Dwight Russell, Department of Water Resources

Burt Bundy, Manager
(530) 528-7411
bundy@water.ca.gov

Future SRCA TAC/Board Meetings:

- The next **TAC** meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, **October 17th**, 9:30 a.m., Willows City Hall, Willows.
- The **SRCA Board** meetings will be held on **October 25th**, 4:00 p.m., Willows City Hall, Willows and ***December 6th**, 4:00 p.m., Willows City Hall, Willows.
- **Landowners Assurances Committee** meeting **October 11th**, 2001, 4-6 pm, Colusa Fairgrounds, Colusa.
- **PILT/Econ Committee** meeting **October 18th**, 2001, 1:30 pm, Board conference room, Willows.

*Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, there will not be a Board meeting in November.

